

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 048507
ORIGIN EUR-12

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
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APPROVED BY EUR/SE: NCLEDSKY
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AMEMBASSY ATHENS
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT: FY 1978 MILITARY SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
LEVELS

REF: STATE 044414

DURING MARCH 2 PRESS BRIEFING ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM LEVELS FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AROSE CONCERNING GREECE
AND TURKEY: BEGIN TEXT:

Q. MR. ERICSON, IN THE GREECE AND TURKEY FIGURES DID YOU
USE AS YOUR BASIS THE BASE AGREEMENTS OR ARE YOU ANTICI-
PATING SOME CHANGE IN THE TOTAL OF THOSE TWO AGREEMENTS?
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MR. ERICSON: THEY ARE BASED ON THE ANTICIPATED RESULTS OF
THE NEGOTIATIONS, YES.

Q. WELL, I AM SORRY. I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE SPECIFIC.

THERE WERE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WERE JUST ABOUT COMPLETED.

DID YOU GO BY THAT OR ARE YOU GOING ON SOME NEW THEORY THAT CLIFFORD, ETC., WILL RESULT IN SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

MR. ERICSON: WE ARE NOT GOING ON ANY NEW THEORY, NO.

Q. YOU ARE USING THE OLD AGREEMENTS?

MR. ERICSON: YES.

THE AGREEMENT FOR TURKEY HAS BEEN SIGNED IN MARCH OF LAST YEAR. AS YOU KNOW, IT HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE CONGRESS AS YET. BUT THAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE TURKEY FIGURE.

THE GREEK FIGURES IN GENERAL HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON, BUT THIS WHOLE AGREEMENT ITSELF HAS NOT BEEN CONCLUDED YET.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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